

1. Introduction

Daniel Webster is reported to have said about the Western American Continent in 1848:

"What do we want with the vast, worthless area, this region of savages and wild beasts, of deserts, of shifting sands and whirlwinds of dust, of cactus and prairie dogs? To what use could we ever hope to put these great deserts of these endless mountain ranges, impenetrable and covered to their base with eternal snow? What can we ever hope to do with the Western Coast of 3000 miles, rock-bound, cheerless and uninviting, and not a harbor on it? What use can we have for such a country? I will never vote one cent from the public treasury to place the Pacific Coast one inch nearer to Boston than it is now."

In a speech a century later on October 2, 1948, Dr. Nellie Byrd, descendant of Clatsop County pioneer Phillip Gearhart, responded, "We are proud that our roots have grown deep into the soil of the west. OUR ANCESTORS HAD THE VISION." These early pioneers did have the "vision" and a belief in the future of the region. Was this enough to propel thousands to leave their homes, families, and the security of all that was familiar to cross two thousand miles of wild, unsettled and practically unexplored and unknown country? Bethenia Owens-Adair, herself a pioneer of 1843, collected the reminiscences of many Clatsop County pioneer women which were published in Bethenia Owens-Adair: Some of Her Life Experiences. They tell of an excitement that gripped all who spoke of the wonders of far-off Oregon. This was a land where good things were promised. Another consideration urged these people to leave their homes back east. In Indiana, Iowa, Ohio, Michigan, and the other states of the midwest, malarial fevers and other contagious illnesses plagued residents sending many to early graves. She recounts stories about parents who lay feverish in bed, close to death, while small children in the family would attempt to till the fields and care for the animals. Thomas Owens, David Pease, Joseph Jeffers, Phillip Gearhart, Adam Van Dusen, James Taylor, Conrad Boelling and the Kimball family: all came west to search for a healthier place to live. This was also the reason why some of these families chose to live in Clatsop county. When Phillip Gearhart arrived in Oregon, he asked Joseph Jeffers, "Where is the healthiest part of this country." Jeffers, replied, "Go down to Clatsop." Gearhart followed this good advice, recovered his health, and lived for thirty-four more years.

Free land was what attracted P.W. Gillette to the Oregon Country. "The man who clears an acre of this land builds himself a monument that will exist as long as the country is in the hands of a civilized race." (Feb. 15, 1861 journal entry). Had he remained in Lawrence County, Ohio, it might have taken him many years to earn the money to buy the acreage he obtained the right to live on

immediately and for free in Oregon under the donation land law. When the Oregon Provisional Government organized in 1843 it allowed those wishing to make a land claim to hold land, less than a section, providing they reside on it and make permanent improvements to it within a stipulated period of time and record the claim properly. The donation land law of 1850 changed the amount of land to a section for a married couple and 320 acres for a single person.

2. First residents of the county

When the first wagon trains crossed the plains to the Oregon Country in 1843, they found it already occupied, not just by the Indians, but by fur traders and fur trappers, some members of the Wyeth expeditions of 1832 and 1834, members of the Peoria Party who arrived in 1839 and 1840, and some families who had arrived with the Methodist missionaries on board the ship Lausanne in 1840. A fur trading station was first established at Astoria in 1811. Although the Hudson Bay Company moved its station to Fort Vancouver in 1825, it retained Fort George as a small trading station, at first with Donald Manson in charge, then later James Birnie as representative. Alexander Latty was the last representative in 1846. In 1844, the only white men at Astoria were Birnie, J. M. Shively who took up a claim in Astoria in January of that year. John McClure and A. E. Wilson followed him. East of Astoria at what is now known as Alderbrook was Robert Shortess who had come to Oregon as a member of the Peoria Party. James Welch was the next arrival who eventually shared Shively's donation land claim.

But before Shively and McClure came to Astoria, settlers were living on Clatsop Plains. Solomon H. Smith was the first white settler there. He moved there in August 1840 with his Indian wife, Celiast, and Rev. John H. Frost, a Methodist missionary who had arrived on the Lausanne. In the spring of 1843 were added the Trask and Perry families. They had crossed the plains the year before, traveling in wagons as far as the Green River; they had to leave their wagons there and completed the long trip on horseback. The Perry's daughter, Mary, was the first white child born in Clatsop County. Late in 1843 arrived the first large expedition to the Oregon Country. Settlers who arrived in Clatsop county that year and settled on Clatsop Plains were William, John and Richard Hobson, N.A. Eberman and family, Thomas Owens and family, Thomas and George Summers, J.G. Tuller, Ben Wood and Samuel Hall. The early settlers chose the coastal area because it was covered with grassland and was perfectly adapted for the immediate use of pasturing cows, horses, sheep, oxen and mules. In 1850 all the large ranches were located on Clatsop Plains, including the farms of Solomon H. Smith, William H. Gray, William Hobson, R.W. Morrison, A. Condit, Thomas Owens, W.T. Perry and A. Trask. The grassland also took less preparation for planting crops. With the primitive equipment available in the 1840's and 1850's, clearing trees and stumps was time-consuming, hard work. Early settlers often set fire to the woods on their property, then sometimes watched it go out of control. Because transportation was by water, most early homes on Clatsop Plains were built in the north, close to the Skipanon and Columbia Rivers. The earliest roads in the county were built on Clatsop Plains from farm to farm with the terminus at Skipanon Landing. The beach at low tide also provided easy passage from Point Adams to Tillamook Head.

3. Population Statistics

Where did the immigrants to Clatsop County come from?

According to the 1850 federal census for Clatsop County, the states that were listed as birth places for most residents were:

**New York - 57 adults and 2 children
Ohio - 29 adults and 1 child
Virginia - 27 adults and 3 children
Kentucky - 25 adults and 7 children
Pennsylvania - 17 adults
Illinois - 13 adults and 15 children
Missouri - 13 adults and 12 children
Maine - 15 adults
Iowa - 1 adult and 21 children
England - 17 adults and 1 child
Germany - 12 adults
Scotland - 8 adults and 4 children**

The population of Clatsop County in:

**1846 was 95 (38 families)
1850 462 (250 of these were in Astoria)
1854 593 (1/3 were females)
1856 423;
1857 414
1858 544
1860 498**

Males in 1850 outnumbered females more than two to one. The oldest man was 69 years old; the oldest woman was 60. The average age of the married men on the 1850 census for Clatsop County was 38 1/2; for the married women, 30 1/2, with an average difference in age of eight years. The greatest age difference was twenty-six years for Frederick Ketchum and Josephine Smith Ketchum. (A marriage that did not survive.)

The most common occupations listed on the 1850 census for Clatsop County were:

farmer	72	engineer	7	tailor	4
merchant	24	smith	7	cooper	4
laborer	27	lawyer	7	sailor	3
lumberman	21	sawyer	6	steward	3
carpenter	20	pilot	6	cook	3
miner	12	hotel keeper	5		

4. Daily Life in the 1840's & 1850'

Description given of the hardships endured by the pioneer women of Clatsop County as printed in the book, Bethenia Owens-Adair: Some of Her Life Experiences.

1. Diet was salmon and potatoes - Mrs. Owens

**In the spring of 1845 Thomas Owens planted about six acres of potatoes
The Owens family bought Spanish cattle from Robert Shortess; they were vicious animals and to get them to stand still to milk them Tom Owens had to stand by with a club and hit it when it moved., pg 158**

The Gearhart family arrived on Clatsop Plains with four cows, two calves, 2 American mares and 21 cows that he had exchanged for his plains team of oxen and wagon. Mrs. Gearhart began the dairy business at once. pg. 231

2. House - "We moved into our Clatsop home in the midst of winter. I gathered dried ferns and mixed them with clay to chink our cabin. My husband drove in four posts by a big hole left in one end of the cabin and between them..... " Mrs. Owens, pg 151

The Van Dusens moved into one of the Shark houses. "Mr. Van Dusen had to split out boards for roofing and chinking this house. We had no furniture except what we made ourselves. Our bedstead was made by boring three holes into logs of the wall into which end and side rails were driven and fastened to one large log on the floor. We were very thankful, however, for this humble home and soon made it cosy and comfortable." pg 197

3. Clothing - The Owens family had no shoes, only moccasins made from elk skin. They had to kill the animals, and cure and tan they hides then sewed them together with thread made from flax they planted and processed.

5. Industries

A. Grist mill - one operated briefly on the Ohanna River north of Seaside, then changed to use as a sawmill.

In 1845, William Hobson sent his son 180 miles in a canoe to Salem with wheat he had raised that was to be ground in a mill there. The only other alternative was to grind tiny amounts in a coffee mill.

B. Sawmills at Oak Point, Ohanna, north of Seaside, Astoria, Youngs River, Tongue Point and Lewis and Clark

"In 1852 R. M. Moore built at Fort Clatsop the largest steam saw mill then in Oregon. The mill stood at the bank of the river about 500 feet east of the Lewis and Clark River." Gillette's diary.

C. Tannery - John Houghton had a tannery in 1850; according to the census of that year he had processed 6,000 sides at a value of \$3,000 using two men and a horse with \$2000 capital.

D. R. J. Lawrence had a shoe and boot manufacturery; he had made 150 pairs of boots with \$1500 in the last year.

Wages in 1850:

average monthly wages to a farm hand \$40 with board

average to a day laborer with board 2.00

average to a day laborer without board 2.50

average day wages to a carpenter without board 4.00

weekly wages to a female domestic with board 5.00

price of board to laboring men per week 3.00

6. Native Cultures

James Birnie, one time factor of the Hudson Bay Fur Company at Astoria, reminisced about the early years with P.W. Gillette. "I remember the time," he said, "when Chinook Chief Comcomley had two hundred warriors. And there were times when I looked out over the bay at Astoria and saw hundreds of canoes with Indians in them." This was a sight that few had the opportunity to see.

"When smallpox raged through the Indian population," Almira Raymond said, "they were dying as much of starvation as disease." Sick Indians were not allowed to go near the homes of the white settlers. Almira Raymond, a missionary who had arrived on the ship Lausanne in 1840, was one of the few pioneers who risked her own health to help the Indians and she nursed many through the disease. For most Indians there was no protection from the many diseases that swept through the area. So many died from intermittant fever in the 1830's and 1840's that often the bodies were simply abandoned.

However, Indian blood does still travel through the veins of many in the local area. This survival was ironically tied to the disappearance of the Indian culture. The earliest settlers were white males who took Indian wives in order to qualify for the full amount of land granted to a couple, 640 acres. A single man was allowed only 320 acres. The children of these couples often chose white spouses. They adopted the culture of the whites so completely that they were often described on the census as white though they were half or one quarter Indian. There were no local Indian reservations, so those who wished to live on one had to travel to Bay Center in Washington or elsewhere. There they could maintain their Indian identity with fewer problems from the white population.

Conflicts with Indians in Clatsop County were rare. When the pioneers first came, problems arose when the Indians used intimidation to get food or other items they desired. "Spuckem" terrorized the families on Clatsop Plains, robbing them at every opportunity and was finally shot in self-defence in 1846 by Thomas Owens, who had shortly before been appointed the first sheriff of the county. Cooperation between Indians and Whites was the rule. Tom Owen's wife planted flax from which she obtained fibers that she traded to the Indians. They made fish nets from the flax fibers and in exchange gave her barrels of salt salmon. Caroline Van Dusen also tells the story of Chief Walluski who checked on her family's welfare during a long cold spell in the winter of 1849 when they lived on the west side of Young's Bay, and then ferried them over to Astoria to stay until the weather warmed up.

Elizabeth Latty

Elizabeth Latty, the widow of Alexander Latty, was the only woman to prove up on a donation land claim in Clatsop County. What is even more remarkable is that she was an Indian, with a Tillamook Indian father and a Chinook Indian mother. Her story has been told by Len Millard in his book, The Seaside. CCHS has what is believed to be her photo. During the 1860's Seaside became an attraction for tourists up and down the coast due to the efforts of Elizabeth Latty and her daughter Ellen Latty Cloutrie in opening their "Summer House" to visitors.

Description of the Chinook and Clatsop Indians:

Exerpts might be taken from P.W. Gillette's diary and from Samuel T. McKean's memoirs. Both have good descriptions of local Indians, not published before.

Photo of Charlotte Smith, daughter of Celiast and granddaughter of Clatsop Chief Coboway (I have a wonderful photo of her from OHS)

Photo of Kate Juhrs, daughter of Chief Tostum, showing head-flattening

7. Description of Astoria in the 1840's and 1850's

These descriptions come from a variety of old newspaper articles. This section should be illustrated with photos of old Astoria.

Concluding with a quote from Bethenia Owens-Adair, page 237. See Quote No. 2 below.1. "Astoria, though the oldest town in the territory, was very much smaller than Portland. It contained at that time (1852) only two stores, one poor old sawmill and about twenty houses including the old Boelling Hotel, or Astoria Hotel as it was called." (P. W. Gillette)

8. Government

A. Clatsop County

Date of organization June 22, 1844

Created out of Tuality District

Type of business conducted

- 1. Building roads**
- 2. Establishing schools**
- 3. Burying dead found on beaches**
- 4. Probate**
- 5. Issuing licenses for saloons and tin pin alleys**

(In 1850 there were no paupers and no crime, according to the census.)

B. Town of Astoria & Upper Astoria

Date of organization June 6, 1856

From the minutes of the town of Astoria, the first ordinances were:

- 1. To regulate spiritous liquors**
- 2. To regulate billiard tables and tin pin alleys**
- 3. To appoint a town marshall**
- 4. To prescribe the duties of fire marshall**
- 5. To regulate dogs running at large**
First dogs licensed were Fanny, Curly, Scratch, Snapp, Roxie and Towser.
- 6. To restrain swine from running at large**

C. Towns of Yellow Bank 1846, Lexington 1848, Tallmantown 1859

9. Transportation

A. Canoe

"We crossed the Missouri River en route to Oregon May 2d, 1844 and we reached Astoria, January 19, 1845 after a nine day trip down the Columbia in an open canoe. The rain continued during the entire trip down the river. The family never slept in a house from the time we started for Oregon until we reached Astoria nine months later." Nancy Morrison, pg. 178

Much of P.W. Gillette's book focused on the difficulty in getting to Astoria. The distance that takes less than fifteen minutes now, took several hours of strenuous rowing. The time that Gillette's neighbor, Elijah Jeffers borrowed his boat and did not return from Astoria, meant that Gillette was unable to get to Astoria without a walk that would have taken many days and a swim across the Youngs River.

B. Sailboat

C. Steamship

Gillette reported that the steamship he traveled on made the trip from Portland to Astoria in a record six hours.

10. Education

A. Clatsop Plains School

B. Astoria

Methodist Church

School building (1859)

11. Entertainment

A. Musicales

B. Dances - Ira McKean's description

C. Masonic Lodge (1853)

D. Spiritual Society

E. Saloons and tin pin alleys

12. Religion

The first church built in Clatsop County was the Methodist Church seen in the 1855 photo of Astoria. This building was also where the first public school was taught in Astoria.

According to the 1850 census there were two churches, the Presbyterian Church which would accommodate 250 people and the Methodist Church which would accommodate two hundred and was valued at \$350.

13. Clatsop County Firsts

Astoria is the oldest continuously-occupied English-speaking settlement west of the Rockies, founded in 1811.

The first U.S. mail office west of the Rockies was established at Astoria.

The first federal building west of the Rockies was constructed to house the customs office in 1852.

The first woman mayor west of the Rockies was Warrenton's Callie Munson in 1913.

The first commercial sawmill along the Columbia was brought across the Oregon Trail in 1843 by Henry Hunt to Hunt's Point near present-day Bradwood.

The first Presbyterian synod formally organized in Oregon was on Clatsop Plains in 1846.

The first school in the Northwest was established about 1824 for the purpose of teaching the sons of the Chinook Chief Comcomly by the Hudson Bay clerks at Ft. George.

The first U.S. weather observation station was established in Astoria in 1850.

The first woman on the Pacific Coast to earn a medical degree was Bethenia Owens-Adair in 1880.

The Oregon Pioneer and Historical Society, the oldest historical society in the state was organized in Astoria in 1871.

**John M. Shively and James Welch
Astoria Townsite**

The story of Shively's efforts to settle in Astoria and claim it as a part of his donation land claim, his retreat back east forced by John McLoughlin and his triumphal return with the commission for post office.

James Welch, who was invited to share this donation land claim with Shively, refused to be intimidated as Shively had been, and did not leave.

The land these two men settled on included the area of what is now 13th Street to 31st Street in Astoria.

Exhibit items:

John Shively's oath of office for postmaster dated 1847

" " Photograph

Photo of John Shively's house originally built by Ezra Fisher

Plat of Shively's Astoria

Photo of James and Nancy Welch

John McClure's Astoria Townsite

Exhibit items:

**Plat of McClure's Astoria from Clatsop County Deed Book B
Plat of McClure's Astoria from Clatsop County Plat Book 0**

In 1846, a bottle of "blue ruin," a dangerous concoction of alcoholic fluids, instigated a fight between John McClure and Alexander Latty that damaged John McClure's reputation beyond repair. Had the fight not been so farcical, it might have caused the situation to be much more dangerous. Alexander Latty, the agent for the Hudson Bay Company, was accused by John McClure, an American settler, of having refused to share a drink with him. After the liquor took effect on his brain, McClure, who hated the British, warned Latty that he was going to shoot him. Latty could not believe he would do it. "Go, ahead and shoot," he said. The shot that flew by did little damage, but the shock and disbelief Latty felt was immediately replaced by rage and he flew at McClure, thrashing him soundly, then finished by throwing him in a heap down on the rocks on the edge of the Columbia River. McClure survived his injuries and kept away from "blue ruin" long enough to oversee his claim to the most valuable property in Clatsop County today, his donation land claim that stretched all the way from what is now 1st street to 13th Street in the busiest section of the city of Astoria.

P.W. Gillette wrote about McClure: "Colonel John McClure took up the next claim on the eastern boundary of Smith's claim, and the main business part of Astoria now stands on the McClure claim. Colonel McClure was an Indianian and of good family and I was informed by one who claimed distant kinship with him that he was at one time Collector of Customs at New Orleans, but for some reason best known to himself, he sought a home in the wilderness of Clatsop County. He took a Chinook squaw for a companion, by whom he had one son, John." Gillette continues to say that McClure sold his donation land claim, taking his money and the money belonging to his Indian "squaw" and returned to Indiana with his son, leaving his wife to return to her "tillicums" which she did without seeming regret. Not mentioned in this story is the fact that John McClure served in many official capacities in the town's government, and donated to the county the block on which the County Courthouse stands.

John Adair's Astoria Townsite

A. E. Wilson took possession of the next claim east of Shively's, holding it till 1849 when he sold it to General John Adair who was sent by President Taylor as Collector of Customs for the Port of Astoria. (---From Gillette's newspaper article from November 20, 1895. There is more that can be used.) CCHS has many important papers relating to Adair's work as Customs Collector which could be used in the exhibit.

**Robert Shortess
George Washington Cook
Samuel C. Smith**

"Robert Shortess took up the next claim which extended east from the Adair land almost to Tongue Point. Shortess was one of Oregon's earliest settlers. He crossed the plains in 1837, but did not go to Clatsop County until 1843. He was a good citizen, a thoroughly honest man, but very eccentric, a warm friend, a bitter hater, very profane, and could quote Shakespeare from lid to lid." (P.W. Gillette Nov. 20, 1895) Robert Shortess was a member of the Peoria Party and instrumental in setting up the Oregon Provisional Government. His wife was a Red River Indian who was given to him by a chief on one of his travels.

George Washington Cook, who was born in Rutland, Vermont, came to Oregon in 1852. He took up a donation land claim on the south slope of Astoria, facing Youngs Bay. He married a slave of the Clatsop Indians, named Mary. To them were born several children who grew up in the Olney area after Cook sold his donation land claim and took out a homestead claim there. He died in 1870 and his widow married twice afterwards, to James Campbell and John Matier.

Samuel C. Smith, also known as "Ticky" Smith took out the donation land claim on what is still known as Smith Point. Smith arrived in Oregon in 1843 and in Clatsop County in the same year. He married an Indian from whom he was divorced years later. When he died in 1877, it was claimed that he was the first on the Columbia to preserve fish for the commercial market.

=====

Exhibits

- 1. Preston W. Gillette diary along with his photograph**
- 2. Pioneer & Historical Society Membership Books**
- 3. Astoria Town Minutes (the original should be at the Astoria Public Library)**
- 4. Bethenia Owens-Adair's book, Some of Her Life Experiences.**
- 5. Chairs, handmade, hardwood, armless, made from Conrad Boelling's wagon bed.**
- 6. Spinning wheel made in 1817 belonging to the McKean family #597 A & B**
- 7. Iron kettle used in crossing the plains by settlers of Clatsop Plains. #693**
- 8. Cradle made for Hustler G. Van Dusen, born at Astoria Oct. 3, 1858. #581**
- 9. Quilt, silk patchwork, 90 years old (in 1950's or so) Van Dusen's #339**
- 10. Job Ross family bible came across the Oregon trail #2642**
- 11. John Hobson branding iron, 1848 #2094**
- 12. Seth Thomas Clock, purchased in Henry Co., Iowa in 1838, brought across the plains by Philip Gearhart.**
- 13. Homespun tablecloth of the Moses Rogers' family #7**
- 14. John Shively's accordeon, played at parties around the county**
- 15. Dress, child's blue & white check silk, belonging to Sophia Boelling dated to 1854, #405**
- 16. A butter churn**

=====

Maps and Photos

- 1. Map of Oregon Trail**
- 2. Map of Clatsop County in 1843 (Is there one?)**
- 3. Clatsop Co., including Tuality Co., through time (county border changes)**
- 4. Survey map of Clatsop Plains (about 1852)**
- 5. Survey map of Astoria (about 1852)**
- 6. Map of Donation Land Claims (Judi Byrd's at CCHS?)**
- 7. Township Maps by Trutch Bros. (about 7 of them from 1856)**
- 8. Cleveland Rockwell's 1868 map of north part of Clatsop County**
- 9. Enlargement of the Astoria section of this map**
- 10. Map of Indian Villages**

Quotes to Add to Narrative

1. "As soon as a stranger went into a neighborhood and inquired for vacant land, he was at once asked if he had a family; if the answer was in the negative, there was no vacant land in that vicinity. So the poor bachelor could find no vacant land. The county was thinly settled and everybody wanted families for neighbors."

2. She [Philippina Veith Boelling] has seen Astoria grow from a few houses at the edge of the water with a dense forest behind them, to a busy little city, with all the modern conveniences and comforts, and from traveling in Indian canoes, as the only means of travel, to seeing large ships from all ports lying in the harbor, and having fine steamers and later, hearing the whistle of the locomotive in town; from having the mail brought around the Horn in a sailing vessel and getting it once a year, to having it left at the door by a mail carrier several times a day.

3. P.W. Gillette came to Clatsop County partly for romantic reasons. He wrote, "Here was my first view of the great ocean, my first tramp on the 'surf-beat shore,' my first hearing its eternal roar--another of the dreams of my boyhood realized--to see the great ocean." From his home in the Lewis and Clark Valley, he could hear the sounds of the surf roaring over the low range of hills, a constant reminder that he had reached his quest.

What varieties of experiences did these early pioneers have on the trip west? Job Ross, his wife and four children set out in the spring in 1851. They were slowed by high water and fell behind the party they were traveling with. When they tried to cross the Platte River, they were captured by Pawnee Indians who took all their provisions and camp equipment. When the Indians released them, they had to return to Iowa and spend the winter there. Job Ross hunted and trapped that winter and the next spring this family started out again, finally arriving in the Oregon Territory six months later. He settled in Astoria and operated the Union House Hotel.

Rachel Mylar Kindred, wife of B.C. Kindred, was forced to walk on the journey west after their wagon team became exhausted. After a time, her shoes and socks wore out; the rest of the journey she made with bare feet that soon became swollen. On December 24, 1844 the Kindred family reached Oswego in the Oregon Country. The next night Rachel Kindred's son James Kindred was born. Years of poverty and hard work followed as she and her husband improved their donation land claim that was located in the present-day Hammond area. When she sold her portion of it, she received \$25,000 for it, a large sum in those days.

Sarah Sophia Kimball accompanied her parents and siblings on their trip west. Tragedy struck early when her three-year old brother died along the way. His body was buried in the middle of the roadway so that the wagon wheels would obliterate all traces of the grave to protect it from the Indians. On arriving at the Whitman Mission it was decided that the family would spent the winter there. Sarah's father, Nathan Kimball, sensed trouble from the mission Indians, but Whitman would not heed any warnings. The Indians suddenly began a killing spree, murdering fourteen people, including the Whitmans and Nathan Kimball and one of Kimball's sons. "Although I was only six years old at the time, I can still remember seeing my father fall," Sarah said. Those not slaughtered endured a month of terror when they were held as captives of the Indians. A few years later, Sarah Sophia Kimball married Joel Munson and for a time they lived in Astoria; later he was keeper of the light at Point Adams. Her mother, brothers, and sisters all were Clatsop County residents.

== 35 Col. James Taylor ==

Oct. 7, 1873

--Col. James Taylor was called to Astoria last Friday in consequence of the illness of one of his daughters, who was attending school in Portland but returned with him. He will leave again for the valley to-day, and will be in attendance at Salem this week.

July 24, 1875

--Col. Jas. Taylor, of Clatsop, informs us that splendid crops of hay have been harvested in good order, in that section of our county. Oats are coming along finely and the harvest is just commencing. He says he has never seen farming prospects as good on Clatsop Plains as at the present time.

== 42 Clark Carnahan ==

Oct. 18, 1877

--Mr. Clark Carnahan has gone to 'Frisco to become a machinist.

== 42 Hiram Carnahan ==

Dec. 2, 1873

Mr. H. Carnahan of Clatsop Plains has left a rutabaga at this office which weighed twenty-four pounds. It was as solid and nice as any we have seen.

Oct. 6, 1877

HEAVY BEET.--Commissioner Carnahan of Clatsop has left at our office a sample product of the soil of that locality which may be considered worthy of mention. It is a blood red beet, which weighs 12 lbs. and measures 19 inches in length, and 18 inches in circumference.

== 42 R.N. Carnahan ==

To the wife of R.N. Carnahan, a son, Sept. 11th, 1876. A bouncing fine boy.

July 19, 1877

On Sunday last some evil disposed person attempted to set fire to the residence of Mr. R.N. Carnahan in this city. Too careful watch cannot be kept over premises. There is an element in the city floating population of the city, none too good to perpetrate deeds like this for purposes of pillage and plunder.

== 42 C.W. Hamblin ==

July 9, 1874

Capt. Hamblin, of the sloop Eliza, did a good days work last week. He made two round trips to Knappton, and placed a new mast in his vessel.

Feb 2, 1875

TO THE PUBLIC

HAVING REFITTED AND REPAIRED

the fast sailing

Sloop "ELIZA,"

For the season of 1874, the undersigned is now in the field for business, under charters for any point on the Lower Columbia.

Punctuality is my motto. For charter, Freight, or passage, apply to C.W. HAMBLIN, Master.

July 24, 1875

--Capt. Hamblin has brought out the sprightly steamer St. Patrick, and employed her here in the bay trade, running to any point where business may call.

Oct. 7, 1876

Capt. C.W. Hamblin, one of the trusty masters of the coasters on this bay, has taken command of schooner Buckeye, and is now in readiness for business of all kinds in the transportation line.

June 8, 1878

On Tuesday morning last, Capt. Hamblin rescued two men who were adrift and within fifteen minutes of the breakers on the bar, in one of Booth & Co.'s boats, their oars, sails, anchor and net gone...

Feb 2, 1878

BORN

In this city [Astoria], Jan. 28th to the wife of Capt. C.W. Hamblin, a daughter.

= 44 B.C. Kindred =

Jan. 6, 1874

We have a sample of fruit from the orchard of Mr. Kindred. Gloria Mundi apples of which one weighed 25 ounces. Thanks to the donor.

April 30, 1874

FOR SALE

CHEAP FOR CASH, --TWENTY HEAD

Young Cattle. Enquire of

**B.C. KINDRED, Sandy Point,
Fort Stevens, Oregon.**

= 45 Philip Condit (Wirt)

Nov. 29, 1873

--Several parties are now on the streams of Clatsop county in search of valuable furs. Mr. Philip Condit of Clatsop Plains informs us that he has caught about twenty fine beaver within a month past on Clatsop Creek and in that vicinity. Messrs. H.S. Dyson & Co. are doing very well on Young's river

[Philip Wirt was adopted by Alva & Ruth Condit when his mother died.]

= 45 Alva Condit =

Nov. 29, 1873

FARM FOR SALE

THE DONATION LAND CLAIM of ALVA CONDIT, on Clatsop Plains.

**One of the Finest Situated places in Clatsop County,
Consisting of Six Hundred and Forty Acres, nearly all under fence, with a nice Orchard, together with Stock, Plows, and other Agricultural Implements, including a new Wagon, team of Horses, harness, etc., is now offered for sale on very favorable terms. For particulars, address,**

**ALVA CONDIT
Skipanon, Clatsop Co., Ogn.**

= 45 Sam Russell =

April 24, 1875

Two thieves that broke into the house of Mr. Sam Russell at the upper town [of Astoria] last Saturday, were followed by a party deputized by Sheriff Twilight, were captured at Mishawaka and returned to safe quarters at the Hotel de Cross Bar in this city, last Tuesday evening. They refused to give any account of themselves and seemed perfectly resigned to the fate in store for them. The house from which they stole the property, a watch, gun, some coin, etc., was entered during the middle of the day, and they were plainly seen by witnesses while escaping. The stolen property was nearly all returned, and Mr. Russell and his aids in the chase, have won enviable fame for tracking such gentry. The prisoners were brought before Justice H.B. Parker on Wednesday morning, and it was ascertained their names were Moore and Thomas. They were bound over for trial at the Circuit Court, and in default of bail sent to jail.

July 24, 1875

Sam Russell, at Upper Astoria, has a tenable house to let.

March 3, 1878

Mr. Sam Russell will leave Clatsop for Walla Walla county on Wednesday of this week.

June 8, 1878

Our friend Sam Russell has turned up safely. By postal card from Walla Walla we are informed that he was in that city on the 30th ult.

Owners of Donation Land Claims in Clatsop County
Photos available *

John McClure	John Shively *
Samuel C. Smith	John Adair *
George W. Cook	Robert Shortess
Cyrus Olney *	Eli C. Crow
Hiram Carnahan	James Brown
Truman Powers *	Jefferson J. Louk
John Hobson *	William Lattie
Robert W. Morrison *	Joseph Jeffers *
George W. Coffinberry	Carlos W. Shane
James Taylor *	Ambrose B. McKean
John Jewett	Ira H. McKean
Jeremiah Tuller	John Thomas
Isaac Harrell	David E. Pease
Moses Rogers *	Bartholomew C. Kindred *
Clement Bradbury	Henry Marlin
Preston W. Gillette *	Isaac Tice
Thomas Scott	Jonathan Barton
Lewis Thompson *	Daniel C. Ramey
John Brown	W.W. Raymond
Obediah C. Motley	David Burnside *
Philip Gearhart *	George B. McEwan

Philo Callender

Moses P. Hubbard

John West

Lewis H. Judson

James A. Cook

William Hobson

George Davidson

Almerin Montgomery

Robert S. McEwan *

Thomas W. Wallace

Charles Stevens

Joshua Elder

Brian Lavery

Eben Weld

Enoch Blodgett

Solomon Smith *

William H. Gray *

David Munsell

Joab Moffit

Matthew McCreary

Luke Taylor

Jacob Coe

Henry H. Hunt

Alva Condit *

Wells Halladay

Joseph Martin

Charles Starr

Addison Jewett

Hans Anderson

John McLean

Frederick Beerman

Franklin D. Shane

Augustus C. Wirt

Ninian Eberman

Henry S. Aiken

Elizabeth Latty *